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KENTUCKY REGISTRY OF ELECTION FINANCE

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KENTUCKY REGISTRY OF ELECTION FINANCE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO SERVE
AS PRESIDENT-ELECT OF COUNCIL ON GOVERNMENTAL ETHICS LAWS

Provides Kentucky International Leadership Role in Campaign Finance Issues

Frankfort, KY

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Sarah M. Jackson, executive director of the Kentucky Registry of Election Finance, is now president-elect of the Council on Governmental Ethics Laws (COGEL). Jackson was elected to the Steering Committee of the organization at the end of September and immediately thereafter selected to serve as president-elect. Jackson will serve as president of COGEL at the conclusion of calendar year 2008.

COGEL is an international organization for government agencies, organizations, and individuals with responsibilities or interests in governmental ethics, elections, campaign finance, lobbying laws and freedom of information. Its mission is to enhance professional development of its members in these areas and to promote government integrity throughout the world.

“I am honored to have been selected for a leadership role in an organization so deeply committed to this mission,” Jackson said. “However, I consider this recognition more a reflection of the skills and expertise of those I work with at the Registry on a daily basis, as well as the contributions of Registry Board Members past and present, and I look forward to this very exciting leadership challenge.”

Jackson, a 1982 graduate of University of Kentucky College of Law and a 1979 graduate of the University of the South, oversees the day-to-day activities of the Registry, the bi-partisan agency charged with enforcing Kentucky’s campaign finance laws. She assumed the position of executive director of the Registry of the Election Finance in August 1999.

Registry Chair John Rogers, of Glasgow, is excited about the prospects of showcasing the Commonwealth of Kentucky at an international level. “This is tremendous recognition of the Registry’s and Sarah’s hard work and reputation. It offers a great opportunity for Kentucky and its campaign finance agency to be showcased in the wider regulatory setting,” said Rogers.

Rogers believes Jackson’s recognition at such a level is “long overdue.” “The Registry Board is very fortunate to have the expertise and leadership skills demonstrated by Sarah on a day-to-day basis. We appreciate her value to the agency, to the Commonwealth, and now to those on an international level,” said Rogers.

The Kentucky Registry of Election Finance’s association with COGEL has been critical in the Registry’s evolution, and the resources provided by COGEL to its membership have contributed to the success of the state’s campaign finance regulatory agency, according to Rogers.

COGEL was formally established in 1978. Its membership, numbering around 200 governmental agencies and organizations, is drawn largely from governmental agencies and interested individuals in the United States and Canada, with some European, Australian, and Latin American members also. One of its major functions is to serve as a clearinghouse of information in COGEL’s areas of interest.

A native Kentuckian, Jackson, 50, previously served as general counsel for Kentucky’s Cabinet for Workforce Development from 1998 to 1999. She served from 1996 to 1998 as director of the Division of Charitable Gaming in the Kentucky Justice Cabinet, having also been selected as assistant director at the inception of the Division of Charitable Gaming in 1994.

Jackson was assistant attorney general from 1982-1986 before joining the law firm of McBrayer, McGinnis, Leslie and Kirkland in its Frankfort office. While assistant attorney general, Jackson served as legal counsel to various boards and agencies, and to the Governor on criminal extradition matters, and represented the Commonwealth in criminal and civil litigation before state and federal trial and appellate courts.

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